

April 6, 2006

Dear Mr. Gruenberg,

Wal Mart is taking over (or at least trying to take over )the world. This is quite an accusation, and yet so many of us know it is not an exaggeration. Wal Mart poses as a nice cheap place where you can buy just about anything, and then eliminates the competition and raises its prices. We have all seen it, and yet we continue to shop there because it is convenient: it is everywhere, and it is never closed.

Wal Mart does not care about the customer or take pride in its merchandise. It is here to take our money, cent by cent. THis is apparent to me every time I walk into Wal Mart to be ignored by a greeter who looks like he'd rather be somewhere else, or bump into the backside of an employee with the words "How May I HElp You?" shoved, like one more advertisement, in my face.

America does not want or need Wal Mart trying to monopolize our financial affairs. They already have optometry services, dental services, hair and nail salons, eateries, and every product they can think of for our supposed convenience. Let us stop and think about what a world would be like where Wal Mart controls virtually everything. I believe it would mean no more genuine concern for the customer, no more pride in the product or the providing of services, no more community, no more choices. What we are looking at here is a serious threat to the quality of our lives. Believe it or not, many people still value things like family and community over material possessions. I'm sure Wal Mart could care less, but we cannot let them win. We cannot let them destroy our communitites.

thank you for your time and consideration.

Elizabeth Poole